



## Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: Legislative Affairs

### *Legislative Update*

#### **DOD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005, AS OF 0700**

##### **Command and Control**

- U.S. Northern Command Commander is Admiral Keating in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Joint Task Force Katrina East (Forward) is located at Camp Shelby, Mississippi – Lieutenant General Honore is on the USS IWO JIMA pier side in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Joint Task Force Commander for the Louisiana National Guard is Major General Landreneau, at New Orleans.
- Joint Task Force Commander for the Mississippi National Guard is Major General Cross, at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi.

##### **Operational Highlights**

- 54,426 (-767) Active Duty and National Guard personnel are on the ground or aboard ships supporting relief operations.
  - 13,305 (- 15) Active Duty.
  - 39,037 (-796) National Guard. 2,084 (+29) outside area ready to assist.
- 10 ships are currently in the area – 6 US Navy and 4 US Coast Guard.
- Total aviation support in area:
  - 144 (-26) helicopters (Active Duty, National Guard and Coast Guard).
  - 45 airplanes (Active Duty and National Guard).
- DoD has provided extensive search and rescue, evacuation, and medical support:
  - 6,717 (+80) Active Duty sorties flown.
  - 9,585 National Guard sorties flown.
- 13 mortuary affairs teams from the 54<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company are in New Orleans operating from the Convention Center.
- Kenyon International contract signed with state of Louisiana – working to only remove remains and transport the remains to the morgue.
- Fifteen total sorties have been flown to date for Mosquito abatement in southern Louisiana. Over 1,056,031 acres have been sprayed.
- 369 beds are available at New Orleans: USS IWO JIMA (105 beds), 14<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital (204 beds), and the USS SHREVEPORT (60 beds).



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- USCG reports 98% of 6.8M gallons of oil released into environment has been recovered, contained, evaporated or dispersed naturally.
- USACE representatives from Joint Task Force - Katrina will meet with interagency partners September 20 regarding a proposed strategy for hazardous material recovery.
- USACE reports New Orleans area is 80% un-watered.
- The USS GRAPPLE is conducting salvage operations on a potential hazard to navigation in the Louisiana Offshore oil port.
- The USNS COMFORT and USS TORTUGA are underway for storm avoidance.
- Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas is the central collection point for supplies donated by foreign countries.
  - 126 nations and 16 (+3) international organizations have offered assistance.

### **Force Adjustments:**

- Modification 3 was approved: USS BATAAN, USNS PATUXENT, Fleet Combat Camera Atlantic, Aeromedical Staging Facilities, 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera, Public Information Elements, Naval Special Warfare Group 4 HQ, Seal Delivery Vehicle Team 2, and Special Boat Unit. The order was released on September 17. Total redeploying personnel: 1,614.
- Modification 4 was approved: USS SCOUT, USS DEFENDER, USS GLADIATOR, USS PIONEER, 4<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Groups, 615<sup>th</sup> Aviation Support Battalion, and Naval Search & Rescue airborne units. The order was released September 17. Total redeploying personnel: 1,704.
- Modification 5 was approved: USS TORTUGA, 40<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Expeditionary Task Force, 97<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Groups, 55<sup>th</sup>, 822<sup>nd</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, and 375<sup>th</sup> Security Forces, and Task Force 2/82. The order was released on September 18. Total redeploying personnel: 893.
- Modification 6 is on hold until after Hurricane Rita passage.